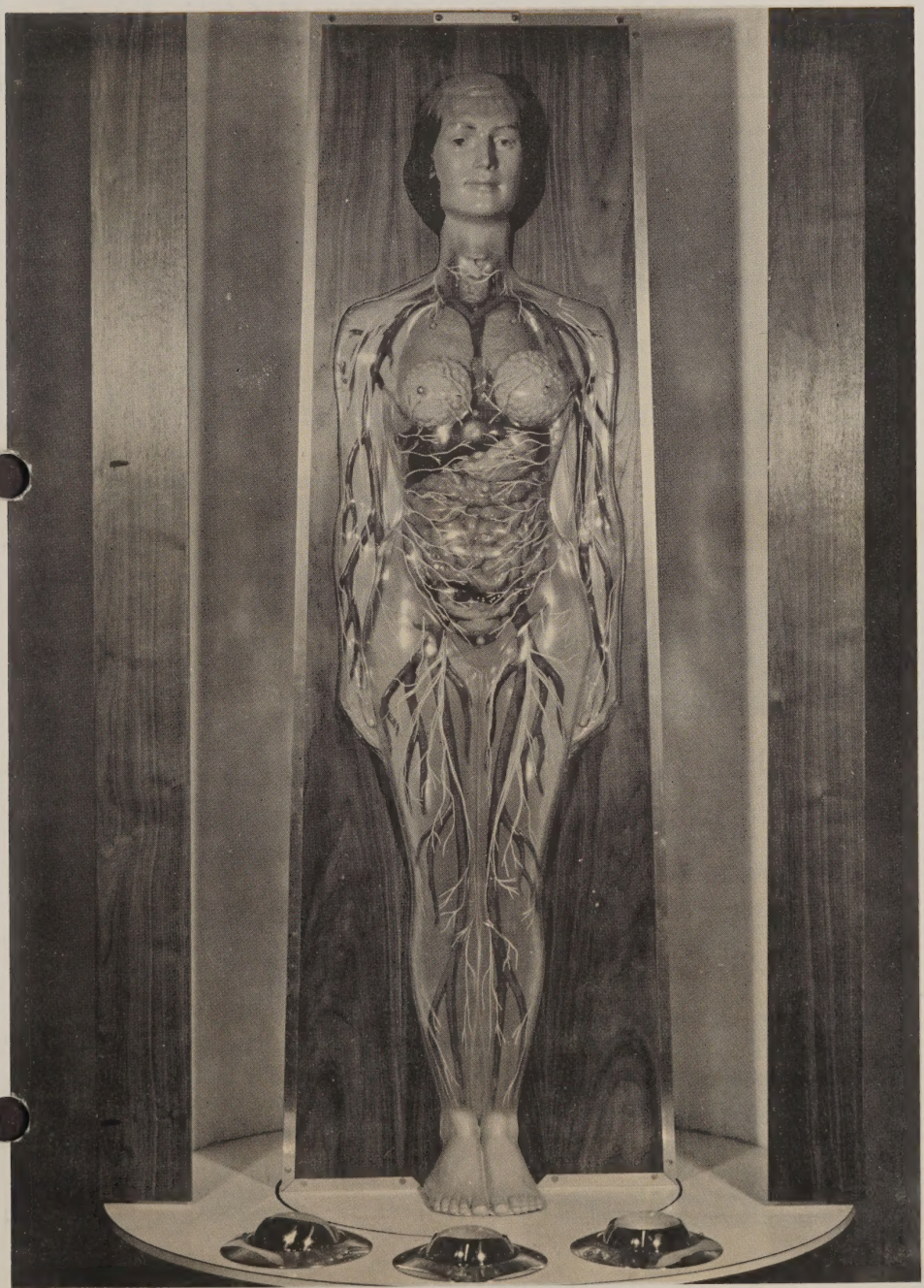
The Hampden Hippocrat

FEBRUARY 1969



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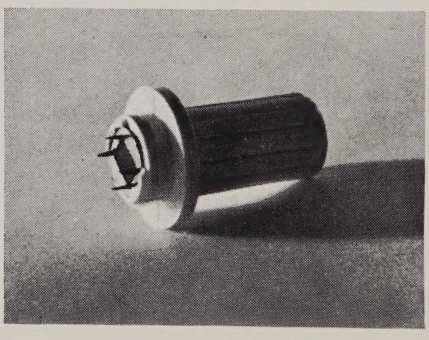

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The Hampden Hippocrat

Volume XXV No. 2

A bulletin for
The Hampden District of
The Massachusetts Medical So

Founded in 1942 by Drs. Edward P. Bagg and William A. R. Chapin, and published monthly except July and August.

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HEALTH FAIR '69

by Robert A. Sears, M.D.

Chairman, Committee on Public Health

Men have circled the moon and dived deep beneath the ocean's surface. Indeed, the rocket and bathysphere feats have captured everyone's imagination as they probe the unknown. The drama of the spectacular has been shared by medicine also, as successful kidney and heart transplantations have been performed. But, we, as physicians, are aware of many more equally exciting advancements that have been made in medical care. These do not occur thousands or even ten miles away. They take place here where we tend the medical and surgical ills of our community. We often forget that a coronary care unit or a radio-isotope scinti-scanner is only a mystical name for which the layman is asked to provide financial help. We take for granted even some of the basic facts we learned early in our professional education—how an embryo develops into a fetus and thence a baby, or what our internal organs look like and how they enable our body to function. The helpful activities to the patient of agencies such as the American Heart Association, Leukemia Society, and others are well known to most of us, but not so for even the door-to-door canvasser who helps make these services possible.

Health Fair '69 was conceived as an educational endeavor in an attempt to fill many of the informational voids noted above and to bring the medical community into more personal contact outside our offices with the people we serve. This fair was initiated by HDMS with the Joint Civic Agencies and Springfield College joining in to make it possible. Health Fair '69 provides us, physicians, with a somewhat unique opportunity and challenge. The opportunity will be to associate with many people from other professions and occupations in its preparation. Then, to meet the men, women, and children of our community and try to communicate to them some of the interesting and in-

formative facets of modern health care. The challenge is for us as individual physicians to allow the time and to put the effort into this HDMS sponsored project as Health Fair '69 becomes a visible reality. Our involvement in this project with our peers can do much to cast away many of the misconceptions and misunderstandings regarding our profession and our alleged lack of community interest. Here our opportunity and challenge is to step out, meet the public, and help it individually to understand some of the fascinating features of medical science.

Health Fair '69 will consist of over one hundred exhibits by physicians, voluntary and government health agencies, hospitals, and schools. These will bring into vivid perspective many accomplishments of modern medicine. This will be carried out in such a way that the layman may not only be able to see and appreciate the drama of life and health, but also that he may learn some of habits and ways for him to maintain better health.

This fair would not be possible without the support of the men and women from every corner of our community who are involved in this undertaking. Organizations such as the service clubs, scouts, senior citizen groups and many others are doing their share. It is estimated that upwards of one thousand individuals will be directly involved in producing Health Fair '69. The talents and time of many have been given willingly and selflessly as the fair has been planned, but as it comes into being, our real need for individual support rises. This is our Health Fair '69 and let each of us give individual time and effort to support this project of HDMS.

COVER:

The AMA's Transparent Woman *exhibit, which will be displayed at the HEALTH FAIR '69. This exhibit consists of a 5 foot 7 inch transparent plastic female model showing 25 organs of the body and the nervous system.*

A built-in tape recorded message describes the function of each organ and the nervous system as they are illuminated individually.

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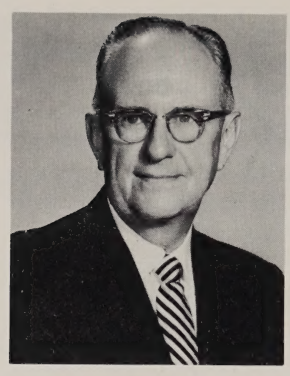


PRESIDENT'S PAGE

COMMUNITIZE!

"The honored ideals of the medical profession imply that the responsibilities of the physician extend not only to the individual, but also to society where these responsibilities deserve his interest and participation in activities which have the purpose of improving both the health and the well-being of the individual and the community."

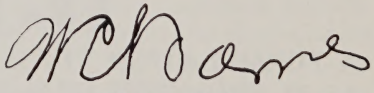
Principles of Medical Ethics,
American Medical Association.

The Hampden District Medical Society is embarked on a splendid community effort in the form of a local health fair on March 27,28,29,30, 1699 in the Better Living Center of the Eastern States Exposition grounds. This represents one of the biggest public projects yet developed by the Society through the efforts of the Public Health Committee. The number of people and agencies involved is amazing, and a great deal of enthusiasm has been engendered to make this a most successful event.

It behooves each of us to carefully plan our time so that as many as possible may participate in this "meeting with the public." These fairs represent an unusual opportunity to meet and discuss problems with the laity, for those who have had this experience in other places have found it most enjoyable and rewarding.

If many of us participate, the fair will be a great success, and some of our public relationships will assume a clearer meaning.

Let's get involved.



Wayne C. Barnes, M.D.

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and the

HAMPDEN DISTRICT MEDICAL SOCIETY

TIME: Saturday, March 22, 1969
Social Hour 6:00 P.M.
Dinner 7:30 P.M.

PLACE: Valle's Steak House
Pynchon Park
Springfield, Massachusetts

PROGRAM: Speaker, Rev., Dr. Paul B. McCleave, Director,
Department of Medicine and Religion,
American Medical Association

RESERVATION: Mrs. Walton E. Stevens
567-0454
Mrs. Frederick A. Flatow, Jr.
567-8261

RESERVATION DEADLINE: March 14, 1969

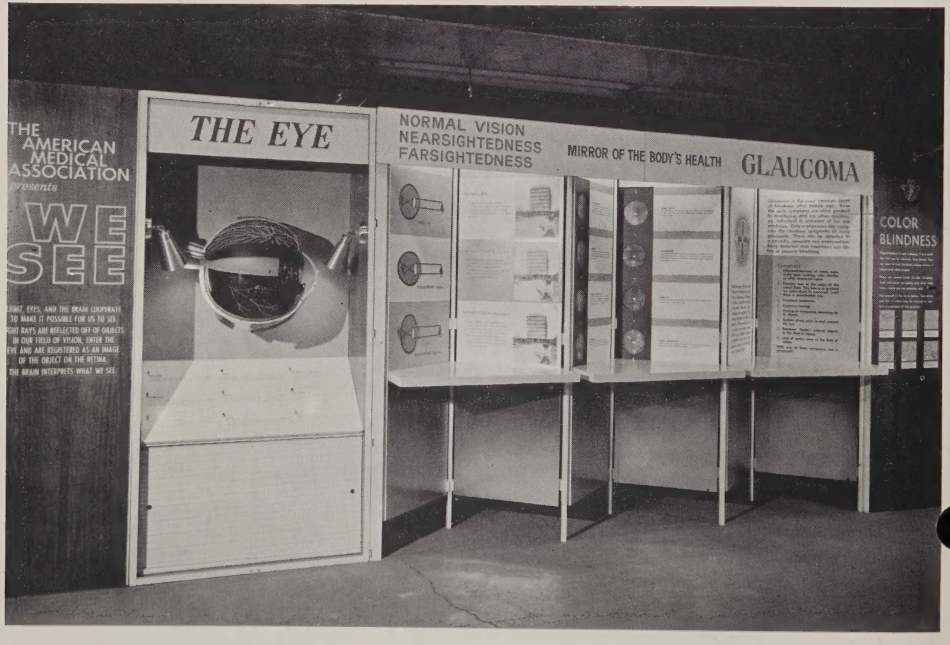
HEALTH FAIR GOALS

by Alan Hale

Chairman, Steering Committee

It is with keen anticipation that my associates and I from the Joint Civic Agencies look forward to working with you to present "Health Fair 69" March 27-30. Health fairs have a proven record of attracting literally thousands of people of all ages and from all walks of life. "Health Fair 69" will offer an opportunity for all the people of this area to communicate personally with

Through the use of a large, three dimensional model of the eye, this exhibit describes the anatomy of the eye. It also explains common conditions of the organ, and includes a color blindness test.



members of the medical profession, and to see first hand what is being offered by the health and social agencies, hospitals, rehabilitation groups as well as school health, education and safety programs.

The goals of "Health Fair 69" are: 1. To provide information concerning the maintenance of good health and disease prevention.

2. To show the value of periodic health examinations.

3. To illustrate the value of screening tests in disease prevention.

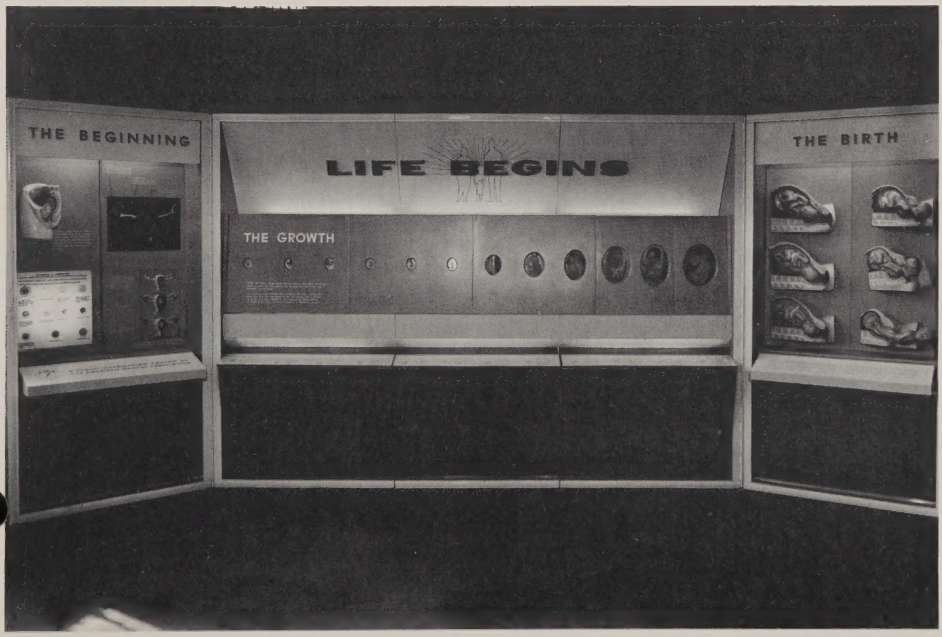
4. To stimulate an awareness of good health.

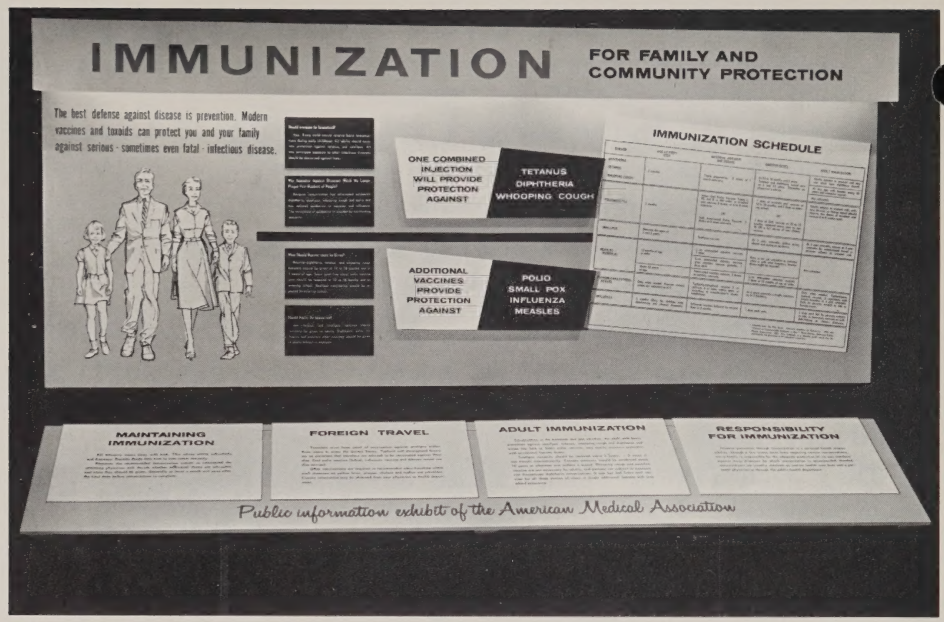
5. To provide information concerning the need for personal responsibility.

6. To provide an opportunity for the volunteer health services and public health services in our community to work together on an activity directed toward better health.

The Hampden District Medical Society is to be commended for its willingness to undertake such a tremendous project. I am sure that you are all proud of the great job that your Public Health Committee is doing to coordinate "Health Fair 69" and I am looking forward to working with you in the hope that "Health Fair 69" will achieve these goals.

The "Life Begins" exhibit is designed to present to the public an understanding of the anatomy associated with human conception and birth. The first part of the exhibit depicts cell division, while the second part shows the growth of the fetus on the wall of the uterus through the eighth week. The center portion contains 12 fetuses embedded in plastic. They vary in development from 4 weeks to full term. The last portion of the exhibit shows the birth steps, presented in 6 stages.




IMMUNIZATION
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The best defense against disease is prevention. Modern vaccines and toxoids can protect you and your family against serious - sometimes even fatal - infectious disease.
ONE COMBINED INJECTION WILL PROVIDE PROTECTION AGAINST
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SMALL POX
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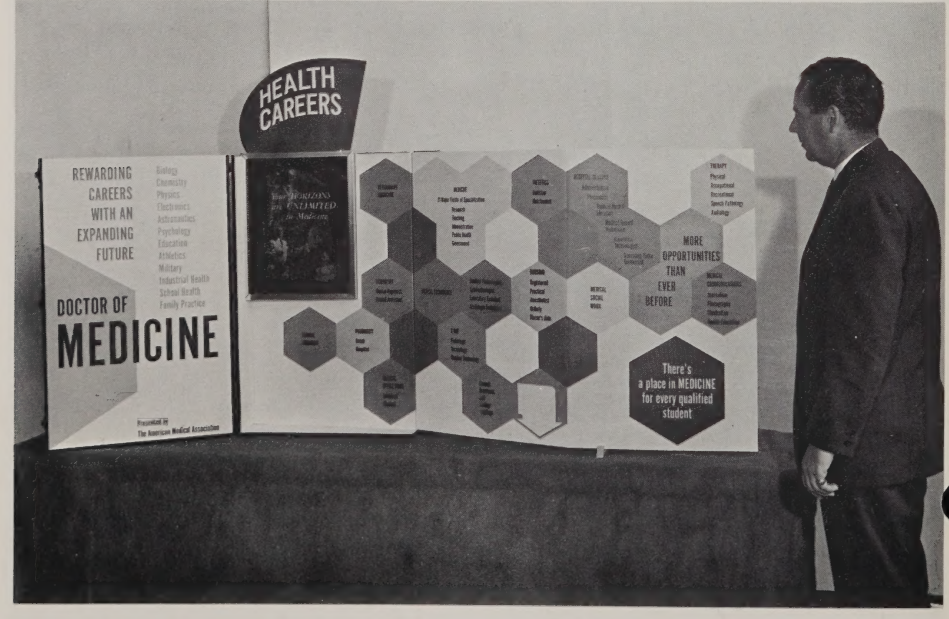
MEASLES
IMMUNIZATION SCHEDULE
MAINTAINING IMMUNIZATION
FOREIGN TRAVEL
ADULT IMMUNIZATION
RESPONSIBILITY FOR IMMUNIZATION
Public information exhibit of the American Medical Association

This AMA exhibit explains why the "best defense against disease is prevention." It provides an immunization timetable for diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, polio, smallpox, and measles—the diseases that once struck dread into the lives of Americans.

This exhibit provides an eye-catching background for career counseling. It lists more than 25 areas from which the prospective student can choose a rewarding future in a health career.



COME TO THE FAIR

by Gary Garrison

Chairman, Publicity Committee

The Hampden District Medical Society is sponsoring a health fair next month which will be the first of its kind in the history of Hampden County.

"Health Fair '69, Your Health—Your Responsibility," will be held at the Better Living Center on the grounds of the Eastern States Exposition in West Springfield. The fair, which will feature educational booths and displays, will run from Thursday, March 27th through Sunday, March 30th. The event will be open to the public entirely free of charge from noon until 9:00 P.M. on Thursday and Friday, and from noon until 6:00 P.M. on Saturday and Sunday.

The exhibits will be conducted by area physicians, dentists, and allied health agencies and organizations. Plans are also being made to have several booths where free health testing will be available. The American Medical Association is also providing several displays ranging from nutrition to child health care.

Other exhibitors include the local chapters of the American Red Cross, Cancer Society and Heart Association plus the Springfield Hospital Venereal Disease Clinic, the Springfield Druggist Association and the Western Mass. Safety Council along with several dozen more.

It was originally planned to hold the fair at the Springfield College Field House. However, it soon outgrew the space at the field house because of the unexpected large number of exhibitors.

Several health fairs have been held throughout the country in the past year and have been quite successful. The local group decided to sponsor one as part of its program to assist in the health education of the citizens and the community in Hampden County and surrounding areas.

The project is sponsored by the Medical Society, it is in reality community-sponsored as some 50 people from local firms and professions are serving in committee posts.

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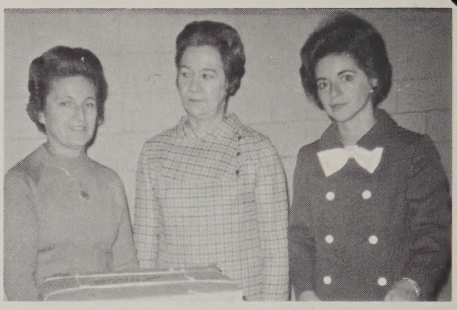
DRUGS FOR KOREA

During 1967 and 1968, physicians' wives gathered drug samples and turned them over to Mrs. Alfred Aborjaily, who at the time was Hampden District's International Health Chairman. Mrs. Aborjaily then recruited the help of Mrs. Edna Pitoniak, Youth Director of the Westfield Y.M.C.A. As a result the young people of the Westfield "Y" packed and shipped over 400 lbs. of medicine to Seoul, Korea. This was done completely at their own expense with money these young people raised through various projects.

These drugs will now be distributed where needed by the Medical Director of International Y.M.C.A. in Seoul, Korea.

Similar projects were carried out throughout the state under the leadership of Mrs. Charles Diamond, state chairman for International Health.



On Their Way—L. to R.: Mrs. Charles Diamond, Mrs. Edna Pitoniak, and Mrs. Alfred Aborjaily.

MRS. RICHARD V. PAUL
WAHDMS, Correspondent to
The Hippocrat

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SPRINGFIELD'S MORTALITY STATS

An unofficial analysis of death certificates filed for Springfield residents in 1968 reveals that a total of 1,665 persons died during the year. This figure does not include those Springfield residents whose deaths occurred outside of the City nor the 879 deaths occurring in the City of non-residents.

The ten leading causes of death were:

1.	Diseases of the heart	705
2.	Neoplasms	265
3.	Cerebrovascular lesions	193
4.	Pneumonia (all types)	106
5.	Accidents	73
6.	Cirrhosis of liver	47
7.	Diseases of early infancy (Under 4 weeks of life)	46
8.	Bronchitis	43
9.	Disease of the circulatory system	40
10.	General arteriosclerosis	25
	All other causes	122
	Total	1,665

Deaths from heart disease led the list with 42.3%; next, neoplasms with 15.9%; third cerebrovascular lesions with 11.6%; fourth, pneumonia with 6.4;% and fifth, accidents with 4.4%. Approximately, three-fourths of the deaths occurred amongst those sixty years of age and above. Males predominated over females in the ratio of 1.08 to 1. As in the recent past, these mortality statistics point up the fact that chronic diseases, particularly those of the cardiovascular system in the older age groups are the major killers.

Deaths from infectious diseases during 1968 were due to:

Pneumonia	106
Bronchitis	43
Tuberculosis	4
Meningitis	1
	154

Only 5 deaths were due to infectious diseases considered officially dangerous to the public. Most of the pneumonia and bronchitis deaths were undoubtedly fatal precipitations superimposed upon some other debilitating processes. It must be emphasized that tuberculosis is still with us and that we must be eternally vigilant thereof when we consider the fact that there were 4 deaths and 21 new cases reported.

Analyzing the 73 deaths occurring in 1968 as the result of accidents, some interesting facts stand out. First, 38 or slightly more than one-half occurred in or about the home as the result of falls involving 11 men and 27 women with all but one over 60 years of age. Secondly, 21 persons were killed as the result of traffic accidents —7 drivers, 4 passengers, 9 pedestrians, and 1 bicyclist. Nine persons died of burns; and one drowned. One death respectively resulted from the following: being caught in a conveyor belt, a drug reaction (pentothal), a self-administered injection, an accidental gunshot wound, and a lead poisoning.

Looking at mental health connotations, it might be noted that there were 11 suicides (8 males and 3 females) with deaths beginning in the 10-19 year age group and occurring in each ten year grouping up to and including the 70-79 group. Moreover, there were 9 deaths associated with homicides—6 males and 3 females.

There was one death resulting from complications of pregnancy (a maternal death) and 28 still births reported. Fifty-nine infants (under 1 year of age) succumbed with 46 due to certain diseases of early infancy (prematurity), 5 due to congenital malformations, 3 due to bronchitis, 2 associated with homicide, and one each respectively associated with pneumonia, neoplasm, and ill-defined causes.

AYRES

MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW!

HDMS ANNUAL MEETING, APRIL 22

HDMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING, MARCH 18 AND APRIL 15

MMS COUNCIL MEETING, BOSTON, MAY 21

MMS ANNUAL MEETING, BOSTON, MAY 27-29

NEW ENGLAND HOSPITAL ASSEMBLY, BOSTON, MARCH 23-26

AMA THIRD NATIONAL CONGRESS ON THE SOCIO-ECONOMICS OF HEALTH CARE, CHICAGO, MARCH 28-29

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS, BOSTON, APRIL 21-23

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS, CHICAGO, APRIL 20-25

AMA ANNUAL MEETING, NEW YORK, JULY 13-17

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SPRINGFIELD

IN MEMORIAM

Michael M. Lazarchick,

1906 - 1969

Dr. Michael M. Lazarchick of 188 Springfield Street, Chicopee, died at the Mercy Hospital, Springfield, on January 7, 1969.

Born in Minersville, Pa., on August 15, 1906, Dr. Lazarchick attended Hahnemann College in Philadelphia, Pa., and Boston University, receiving his doctorate in medicine from the Middlesex University School of Medicine, Waltham, Mass., in 1932. After completing his internship in Long Branch, New Jersey, he came in 1933 to Chicopee, where he engaged in the general practice of medicine until his demise.

Dr. Lazarchick served on the medical staffs of the Mercy Hospital and the Providence Hospital for many years. He was a member of the American Academy of General Practice, the AMA, the MMS, and the HDMS.

Deepest sympathy is hereby extended to his family and to his many friends and associates.

IN MEMORIAM

Fred H. Allen, M.D.

1880 - 1969

Dr. Fred H. Allen of 16 Fairfield Avenue, Holyoke, died at the Holyoke Hospital on January 9, 1969.

Born in Acworth, N. H., on April 4, 1880, he came to Holyoke at the age of ten, attended local schools, graduated from Amherst College in 1902, and received his doctorate in medicine from Harvard Medical School in 1907. After completing his internship at the Boston City Hospital in 1909, Dr. Allen returned to Holyoke, where he practiced his specialty of pediatrics and gave selflessly of himself in public service until his retirement in 1961.

Dr. Allen served on the medical staff of the Holyoke Hospital for many years and was at one time a member of the Board of Directors. He was a member of the American Academy of Pediatric, the AMA, the New England Pediatric Society (past president), the MMS, and the HDMS (past president—1932). A veteran of World War I, he served in the U. S. Army Medical Corps.

To his family, his many friends, and associates deepest sympathy is hereby extended.

REFLECTIONS OF A PAST EDITOR

(Editor's Note—This article will be presented in two parts with the first appearing in this issue and the second in the next. Written by the immediate past Editor-in-Chief, Max Millman, M. D., it not only brings out the trials and tribulations of amateurs in the field of publishing but also sets down for perpetuity certain principles relative to the whys, wherefors, and modus operandi of *The Hampden Hippocrat.*)

"The Editor stood 'fore the Heavenly Gate,
His features pinched and cold.
He bowed before the Man of Fate,
Seeking admission to the fold.
'What have you done?' St. Peter asked,
'To gain admission here?'
'I was the Journal's editor, Sir,
'For many a weary year.'
The Pearly Gates swung open wide
As Peter pressed the bell.
'Come in and choose your harp,' he cried;
'You've had your share of Hell'."

The Editor's Passport
(author unknown)

Someone once aptly observed that the "ideal" medical editor has his: (1) head in the clouds, (2) eye on the ball, (3) finger on the pulse, (4) tongue in cheek, (5) ear to the ground, (6) shoulder to the wheel, (7) bull by the horns, (8) nose to the grindstone, and (9) back to the wall.

THE 3 DEADLINES OF THE HIPPOCRAT

To the above one might add that the ideal editor is one who also has inured himself against some of the more common frustrations to which the editor's flesh is heir to. The most demanding of these is unquestionably the *deadline.* One of the first things I learned as a freshman editor was that the *Hippocrat* had not one but actually three distinct deadlines to contend with: (1) the *manuscript deadline,* by which time all written material had to be on editor's desk; (2) the *printer's deadline,* when all material, including advertisements, photographs, etc. had to be in the printer's hands; and finally, (3) the *mailbox deadline,* by which time each monthly issue of the *Hippocrat* had to be in the U.S. mailbox. Since the first and third deadlines fall on approximately the same day (except that they are a month apart), it follows that the hapless editor is always in a dither. To meet these deadlines he reminds, pleads, exhorts, goads and cajoles all concerned to do their bit on time. If this isn't enough, he writes an item or two of his own and in addition keeps planning ahead. The chances are that Dr. John Ayres, our incumbent Editor-in-Chief, has a pretty good idea today of what the next 2, 3, or even 4 issues of the *Hippocrat* will be like. The chances are also that he has already appraised the Associate Editors of what is expected of them, of course, not to forget those inexorable deadlines.

Editors may gripe about deadlines but they know very well that without them their periodicals would never appear on time. They look upon deadlines as necessary evils and realize that until something better comes along they will have to live with them and like it.

THE GATHERING OF COPY

Later it will be shown that the *Hippocrat's* editorship offers many edifying and rewarding experiences. In the meantime, let us continue with some more of its trials and tribulations. The next problem that comes to mind is that of gathering suitable copy or material for publication. In its early days the *Hippocrat* found it extremely difficult to fill a mere 8-16 pages and it appeared then, mind you, only on a quarterly basis. Dr. Bagg, the first Editor-in-Chief, tells us that the first several issues were written almost entirely by him. Today our monthly bulletin may still find it difficult on occasion to fill its 32-36 pages, but this is rarely the case. More often than not, its problems today are qualitative rather than quantitative. Briefly, what the *Hippocrat* is primarily interested in these days is to publish material that is serviceable and meaningful to the District Society. Accordingly, top priority goes to announcements of forthcoming State and District Society meetings, reports of action taken at these meetings, bylaw amendments, obituaries, and new-member dossiers. Next on the priority list (and I feel quite strongly on this point) comes the report of the HDMS Executive Committee. Meeting monthly, this all-important committee, among other things, formulates our policies and conducts all our business between the regular meetings of the Society. The *Hippocrat* offers a built-in opportunity to report all action taken by the Executive Committee to the *entire* membership and not merely to the 20 or 25% that usually attend Society meetings. Moreover, advance publication of its reports will afford the members ample opportunity to study the recommendations before voting on them.

Other committee reports, although somewhat less important than that of the Executive Committee, are nevertheless also well deserving of prime *Hippocrat* space. This is especially true if their reports carry recommendations to be voted upon by the membership.

Next on the priority list comes the Auxiliary. Fully aware of its invaluable and indispensable service to the Society, the *Hippocrat* has always devoted to Auxiliary reports prime space and choice layouts. We have also developed the wholesome habit of dedicating to the Auxiliary a special issue annually. The only room for improvement is an increase in publicity material so as to allow the inclusion of at least one or two items in each and every issue of the *Hippocrat.*

THE PENALTY OF PROOF READING

As publisher of a small, do-it-yourself bulletin, the editor is often called upon to perform many things other than straight editing. One of these is to proof read the galleys. There's nothing wrong with this except that after a while he finds himself looking for typographical errors in everything he reads, from the daily newspaper to the Bible. Frustrated with the typographical errors he discovers, often too late, in his own publication, he finds solace in detecting similar mistakes in *Time* or *Newsweek* magazine. Our membership also seems quite eager at times to bring typographical and other errors to the editor's attention. After publishing a list of State Representatives, as we often do, we received no fewer than three calls pointing out that we erroneously had included the name of a Representative who had died two weeks previously. This brings to mind the story of the small midwestern town publisher. When asked why his 4-page weekly had so many typographical errors, he replied: "It's because we know how fond you folks are of finding them."

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PHYSICIAN, SPEAK YOUR PIECE!

We now come to what may well be regarded as the bitterest frustration of them all, namely "Correspondence," or more correctly, the paucity of letters to the *Hippocrat*. Almost from its very beginning the *Hippocrat* has striven to serve not only as a news bulletin but also as a sounding board. It has tried to encourage the rank and file to express freely its opinions, views, and criticisms, in the pages of the *Hippocrat*. However, notwithstanding repeated reminders and exhortations this has only partially materialized.

"Anything on your mind? Share it with the *Hippocrat!*" has been for many years our bulletin's most perennial slogan. Many years ago the then-editor Dr. Bagg (out of sheer exasperation, I imagine.) published a boxed inscription which read somewhat as follows: "This space was reserved for the item we had hoped you would submit." Several years later the *Hippocrat* conducted an Essay Contest limited to members in practice 10 years or less. Although the contest was almost a complete failure, it should not, I believe, deter us from continuing in our efforts to motivate our members, especially the younger ones, to wider participation in Society affairs.

There are unquestionably those who from time to time disagree with some of the actions taken by the Society, or even with some of the writings published in the *Hippocrat*. All of this is to the good. It is, in fact, the way it should be. A variety of opinions are heard in the staff rooms and hospital corridors. Moreover, now and then a physician would come forward with some question such as: "Why doesn't the *Hippocrat* publish an article on such-and such topic?" The editor's reply would always be the same: "This sounds like a very good idea, why don't you, yourself, write to the *Hippocrat* about it?" Although this advice would be rarely followed, it shows, nevertheless, that our members do have something on their mind even if they don't always feel like sharing it with the rest of us.

One thing is certain! Every item of correspondence ever received by the *Hippocrat* has always been cheerfully received and promptly published. Undoubtedly, the same policy will forever prevail.

Millman

(Part II will appear in the next issue of the Hippocrat*)*

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE
SPRINGFIELD ACADEMY OF MEDICINE
will be held on
TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 1969

SPEAKER: William Hollander, M.D.
Director of Hypertension
and Atherosclerosis Unit,
Massachusetts Memorial Hospitals

TOPIC: "CURRENT ADVANCES IN HYPERTENSION AND ATHEROSCLEROSIS."

CLINIC: Wesson Memorial Hospital, 5:00 P.M.

HOW HOLYOKE WENT FOR FLUORIDATION

The fluoridation of local water supplies cleared one of its major hurdles this October 7th when the statute requiring a referendum on the fluoridation question was rescinded. As the law now reads, local health departments or boards of health can order the water supply fluoridated. However, if within 90 days of this decision to fluoridate 10% of the registered voters sign a petition for a referendum, same must be held. The opponents of fluoridation are a very active, vocal minority, and there is a possibility that in many communities a referendum vote will be necessary.

A year ago Holyoke had a referendum vote on fluoridation which was ultimately passed favorably by about a two to one margin. To achieve this overwhelming vote, it was necessary to educate the public about the benefits and safety of fluoridation. The three main points that were stressed were: 1. It reduced cavities in children by about two-thirds. 2. Over 70,000,000 Americans were drinking fluoridated water, and no adverse effects have ever been reported and. 3. Osteoporosis was less where people drank fluoridated water.

The Holyoke Jaycees were the prime movers in the fluoridation campaign, and they initiated the drive by obtaining 3,000 signatures so that the question could be on the ballot in the first place. The local dentists, doctors– 114 signed a petition supporting fluoridation–and many civic minded citizens joined with the Jaycees to form a Holyoke Citizens Committee for Fluoridation. The chairman of the committee was Mr. Walter Cordes, the head of the Health Department in Holyoke. The group's honorary chairman was President of Massachusetts Senate, Maurice Donahue, who was instrumental in passing the new statute doing away with referendum requirement. "Golden Agers" as well as teenagers had representatives on the Committee, with the latter group raising three hundred dollars at a dance for the campaign.

To counter the propaganda campaign against fluoridation, a strong publicity campaign was instituted. Financial support was obtained from the Valley Dental Society, Holyoke Dental Society and from solicitations amongst the local doctors and dentists in the City. Approximately $2,500 was raised, and this was spent on pamphlets, posters, bumper stickers, newspaper, radio, and TV advertising. Many doctors and dentists gave freely of their time to speak to PTA's, church groups, and civic organizations. Frequently a film supplied by the American Dental Society or one made at the Forsyth Institute was shown in conjunction with the talk. The Program for the Aging in Holyoke had the names of all those over 65 and

a detailed mailing was sent to all these people. Also the parents of children cared for by two of the pediatricians were contacted by phone and urged to vote in favor of fluoridation. Many groups publicly came out in favor of the fluoridation of water. Among these were the Holyoke Taxpayers Association, the Teamsters Local 404, and the Holyoke Druggist Association.

The opponents of fluoridation followed the usual policy of trying to frighten the public by sending out mailings of absurd claims stating that everything from sterility to bowed legs could result from fluoridation. The local newspaper, the *Holyoke Transcript*, declared a moratorium on "Letters to the Editor" on fluoridation until the week before the referendum, and then the letters which did appear tended to tax one's scientific sanity. The newspaper did editorialize in favor of fluoridation. The local radio station was opposed; however, it did permit equal time to those in favor of the subject near the close of the campaign. Thanks to the new statute, other communities may not have to go through the strains of a political campaign to institute a public health measure. It behooves the dental and medical profession to take advantage of this new law and to prod their local health departments or boards of health to initiate steps toward fluoridation. Should the opponents of fluoridation challenge the health department or board of health, then an educational campaign similar to Holyoke's might be necessary.

ABRAMS

YOUR COMMITTEE OF CHOICE

In order to insure the widest possible participation in the H.D.M.S.'s affairs, I am hereby inviting and urging members who have a particular interest to name the committee on which they would like to serve. Needless to say, the effectiveness of a committee is in direct proportion to the interest and concern of its members.

In the forepart of the *Hippocrat* is a complete listing of the Society's committees. Simply by dropping a note or calling the H.D.M.S. office at 1414 State St., Springfield, Mass. 01109, your interest and preference will be given most serious consideration for appointment. Moreover, you will be rendering a distinct service to your profession, your community, and your Society.

Committee work is the heart of any organization. I urge you to let us know where you wish to apply your talents and energies.

Vice President and President-Elect

Walter L. Wozden, M.D.

JANUARY

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

HIGHLIGHTS

President Barnes called the January 21, 1969 meeting of the Executive Committee to order at 8:10 P.M. Present were: Drs. Barnes, Stoler, Anton, Moore, Wiedman, Mozden, Boivin, Kelly, Beauchamp, Jr., Suzor, Sullivan and Mrs. Purdy.

The minutes of the December meeting were read by Dr. Stoler and accepted by the Committee.

COMMUNICATIONS

A letter was read from the Valley Charitable Trust Fund with a check enclosed for $200 toward the purchase of a drug abuse film which is to be used for educational purposes in the parochial and public schools by the Society. A letter of thanks has been sent. The Public Relations Committee will view films and decide on one for purchase.

Dr. Nero submitted his resignation as Councilor to the MMS because of becoming President of the Staff at Wesson Memorial Hospital. This was accepted with regret.

Dr. Barnes suggested Dr. Leroy J. Kendrew as a replacement to the Council. This was approved by the Executive Committee.

A letter from Wing Memorial Hospital was read but tabled for one month.

The program outlined by the Connecticut General Insurance Company for its new insurance of Hamilton Standard and Pratt and Whitney employees was read. It was decided by the Committee that the Insurance, Labor Relations & Industrial Accident Committee, chaired by Dr. Joseph Kelly, have a meeting with Mr. Rundge of the Company and bring in a report at the next meeting. It was moved that Mr. Rundge not be invited to attend the February District meeting. The Committee agreed.

Dr. Moore gave a report on "seeking funds" for the Health Fair '69. Several contacts have been made but so far, other than the $1,000 given by HDMS, $500 by the Massachusetts Medical Society, and the funds remaining after transportation of exhibits by the Valley Dental Society, none have been obtained. Other people trying to obtain funds are Mr. Alan Hale, Chairman of the Fair, and Mr. King, Finance Chairman of the Fair.

Dr. Moore moved and the Committee voted approval that "bookkeeping and payment of bills" be made the responsibility of someone selected by him.

Dr. Kelly's Committee on Insurance, Labor Relations & Industrial Accident will study further the problem of fees and the 95% of charges plan of the Providence Life and Accident Company. Two letters of complaint have come in, one from Dr. Boss, Jr. and one from Dr. Halton.

NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Stoler will prepare the agenda for the February District meeting.

Dr. Ayres attended the meeting and gave a report of the MMS Executive Committee of the Council meeting.

Much discussion followed, and Dr. Ayres was dismissed with thanks.

Dr. Suzor gave a report to the Committee about the work of 18 physicians assigned to speak on the subject of drug abuse to 24 high schools. The Committee will review drug abuse films and suggest one to the Executive Committee for purchase.

Dr. Stoler gave a report for Dr. Sears on the plans of the Health Fair '69, which is progressing very well.

Mrs. Purdy gave a report of the office. The Public Relations Committee, the Steering Committee of the Health Fair '69, and the Public Health Committee have held meetings in the Conference Room.

Mr. Hale, Mr. Turnbull, Mrs. Cummings and Mrs. Purdy met with Mrs. Norton in Pittsfield to talk about final details of the Health Fair. Members of the HDMS are kept busy with speaking engagements at various schools, radio talks, etc. on drug abuse, sex education and VD. Mrs. Purdy had a meeting with Mr. Rook and Mrs. Clarke, R.N., of the Concentrated Employment Program. They are looking for space to conduct examinations, an examining table, eye charts, etc. They also would like to have physicians to perform the physical examinations.

The Committee will take these requests under advisement.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 P.M.

The Grievance Committee met and heard four cases.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 P.M.

ATTENTION COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN!

Committee reports that are purely informational in character need not be presented at the Annual Meeting. Instead, they will be published in the April issue of the *Hippocrat*.

The only requirements are: (1) that the report not exceed 300 words and (2) that the original report and a copy reach the Society's headquarters not later than March 10. A copy of the report is necessary for printing in the *Hippocrat*.

Reports containing "recommendations" will have to be presented at the Annual Meeting.

Chairmen of sub-committees are not expected to present reports at the Annual Meeting; rather, they are to report to their respective parent committees.

Your cooperation is urgently requested.

Bruce B. Stoler MD

BRUCE B. STOLER, M.D.
SECRETARY

MEDICINE'S NEW REFORMERS

We here in Hampden District have had little to no direct experience with medicine's new protesters except through what we have heard via the various media of mass communication. However, currently many physicians and medical students are engaging in a variety of protest activities which in the recent past would have been unthinkable. Remember the brief takeover in the name of "the poor" of the opening session of the AMA convention last June in San Francisco? Remember the Democratic National Convention in Chicago last August when some 400 doctors, medical students, and nurses provided medical support during the demonstrations? Around the country many medical students are declaring their unwillingness to submit to the military draft. The AMA leadership is constantly being pilloried as a vested interest group not in tune with the times.

What is this new reform element in medicine today? Who comprises it? What are the protesters' goals? What are their chances for success?

Some answers are available, but there seem to be few that are hard and fast. Reviewing the protesters' literature, one can not lump them entirely under the heading of *leftists*. Some regard themselves as "humanists;" others, as "responsible radicals"; and others, as "liberals." Moreover, all can not be labeled as merely protesters since many are engaged in service projects for the poor. Nevertheless, there are some generalizations that can be applied to most of the people in medicine's new reform groups. First, they believe that good health care is a basic human right and should be freely available to everybody. They deplore the "two class system of private and charity care" with its racial and financial discrimination. They oppose the AMA leadership which they believe has been devoted to advancing physicians' self-interest at the expense of the general welfare. Except individually, they do not as groups advocate "socialized medicine"; however, they do favor universal health insurance and more prepaid group and salaried hospital practice. They oppose war in general and particularly in Vietnam contending that physicians have been utilized contrary to medical ethics.

As individuals, the new protesters are characterized as personable, articulate, bright, cooly analytical in general discourse but frequently polemic in their literature and in clashes with the health establishment. Their greatest concentrations are around medical school centers with the Northeast, the Midwest, and the West Coast as the main strongholds. Altogether they are supposed to constitute a very small minority. The four principal groups, which consist of the Medical Committee for Human Rights, Physicians for Social Responsibility, Physicians Forum, and Student Health Organizations are reported to have a combined total of 6,000 practicing physicians, house officers, and medical students. Since many belong to more than one organization, it is felt that the total number of individuals is not more than 4,000. Others might add as a protester group the 5,400 members of the National Medical Association.

Although vociferous, unusually dedicated, and zealous, this seems to be a very small force to oppose organized medicine in the person of the AMA. However, from the standpoint of medicine's next generation, the odds may change tremendously should the Student American Medical Association join ranks with the pro-

testers. SAMA, consisting of nearly 3/4 of U.S. medical students, has mirrored the AMA's views on health affairs throughout most of its 18 years of existence. However, last spring it swung somewhat dramatically toward the position of the reform groups. SAMA has established some contact with the various protester groups, but there seems to be some basic differences standing in the way of full collaboration. Meanwhile, SAMA is moving along on its own in various projects of community service and involvement.

Many questions arise as to the future of SAMA and its effect on reformism in American medicine. First, can SAMA's new liberalism win back all but the hardcore radicals from Student Health Organizations? Will there be a conservative countermovement within SAMA? Or will the new liberalism in SAMA give way to traditional general apathy since most students concentrate on medicine rather than medical causes.

We physicians who are on the fringes of medical centers may not be too aware of the existence of these various reform groups. However, those physicians who like American medicine the way it is would do well not to take these dissidents too lightly. Moreover, since some changes seem to be imminent, it would be most prudent to guide wisely and support statesmanly medicine's next generation.

Ayres

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HAMPDEN CAPSULES

SPEAKING

Dr. Maher spoke at the Holy Cross Chapter of the National Council of Catholic Women on "Risk Reduction."

Dr. Stebbins spoke at the Kirtland School PTA, Holyoke, on "Parent to Child about Sex."

Dr. Kendrew spoke to the Public Health Nurses of the Springfield Department of Public Health on drug abuse.

Dr. Hough, III, spoke at Hope Congregational Church to a class of young adults on drug abuse.

Dr. Booker spoke to the Married Womens Club at Springfield College.

The Public Relations Committee held a meeting and physicians were assigned to schools to speak on drug abuse. Eighteen physicians were assigned to twenty-two schools in Hampden County.

Dr. Coons talked to Boy Scouts in West Springfield on "Harmful Effects of Smoking."

HOT FLASHES

Dr. Myra Shayevitz has been certified a specialist by the American Board of Internal Medicine.

Dr. Hazel Richards, Chairman of the Program Committee of the Longmeadow Womans Club presented Zina Provendie for a program.

Dr. Alicandri presented caps to five students of the Mercy Hospital School of Radiology.

Dr. Quinn was named Chairman of the Nominating Committee of the American International College Alumni Association.

Dr. Ayres received a salute from the Joint Civic Agencies Breakfast Club on behalf of the local campaign for the Mothers' March of Dimes.

Dr. Polchlopek appointed Dr. Charles M. Enright, President of the Valley District Dental Society, to serve as Chairman of the Heart Fund campaign.

Dr. Ray Smith, former Secretary of HDMS, started teaching his children and neighborhood children to shoot rifles ten years ago and was instrumental in organizing the Mohawk Rifle Club.

Dr. Caldarola was named Chief of Staff at the Ludlow Hospital.

Dr. Yelle was elected President of the Medical Staff of Providence Hospital.

Dr. Weisman, Chairman of Coronary Care Unit Committee of the Western Chapter of the Massachusetts Heart Association, announced that a course in coronary care in nursing will be presented in Ludlow Hospital.

Dr. Kruger was elected President of Temple Beth El of Springfield.

Dr. Simpson has joined the Monarch Life Insurance Company as Medical Director on a full time basis.

Dr. Kinne received a golden certificate from the Holyoke Hospital Aid Association for 50 years of medical service.

Dr. Zacarian presented a paper at the annual meeting of the Society of Cryosurgery held in Miami, Florida, entitled "The Histopathology of Skin Cancer following Cryosurgery."

Physicians pictured in the magazine "Travel and Golf"—"Physicians on The Sporting Scene,"—Drs. Bloniarz, Rini, Suzor, Montori, and Stirlacci at Pinehurst, North Carolina.

AFICIONADO SVENSKA

William E. Nessell, M.D.

Should you have a question concerning Swedish coins, stamps, history or literature, chances are good that you can get an answer from Bill Nessell. He considers himself the complete hobbyist and admits that he is sometimes hard pressed to find time for his duties as Medical Director at Spingfield's sprawling Monsanto Company plant—a full time post which he has held since moving here from Washington, D.C. in May, 1954.

As a boy, he had the collector's instinct and started early to collect postage stamps and wildflowers. His father was an ardent woodworking enthusiast, and consequently Bill maintains a pretty complete cabinet making shop in his basement where he turns out at intervals various colonial reproductions of pine furniture to his wife's exacting specifications.

During the first of two tours of duty in the U.S. Navy (1946-47 and 1952-54), his ship put in at Gothenburg, Sweden, for two weeks during the summer of 1947. Impressed with the beauty of the country (and the girls) and the cordiality of the Swedish people, he brought home with him amongst other mementos a pocketful of Swedish coins. About nine years ago these coins were rediscovered, and great interest in Sweden ensued.

Since then he has collected copper coins dating back to 1625; most having been purchased directly from Stockholm. His collection consists of 118 of the known 145 copper coin types together with several pieces of "plate money"—large rectangular coins weighing a pound or more.

Dr. Nessell holding one daler plate money copper coin of Sweden, dated 1723.

One ÖRE—copper coin of Sweden, diameter 4 cms., dated 1627, inscribed "Moneta Nova Cupre Nicopensis" (new copper money of Nyköping).

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Those he doesn't have are seldom offered for sale and repose mostly in museum collections. He also has a complete library of Swedish numismatic reference books, mostly written in German or Swedish. He retains some proficiency in German from college and has obtained the Swedish linguaphone course as well as several Swedish language texts and a good dictionary, all of which enable him to get the maximum enjoyment from his collection. His Swedish stamp collection is 95% complete, and he spends hours mounting and remounting stamps in albums of his own design and studying Swedish stamp catalogs.

He has accumulated a considerable library of volumes on Swedish history from Viking times to the present and can talk indefinitely about Gustaf II Adolf and the Thirty-Years War, Queen Kristina or the campaigns of Karl XII. Also he has a fairly extensive collection of Swedish literature purchased here and there in used book stores; his favorites are Selma Lagerlof and August Strindberg. He exchanges frequent correspondence with several fellow collectors and dealers in Sweden. One of his prize possessions is a letter from King Gustaf VI Adolf's private secretary which he received in reply to a letter to His Majesty.

Bill has been Vice President of the Springfield Stamp Club and President of the Springfield Coin Club. He is a member of the American Swedish Historical Foundation in Philadelphia and has authored by invitation an article on Swedish coins which was published in latter's 1966 Yearbook.

He resides in Wilbraham with his wife Beverly and his 9 1/2 year old daughter Gail, who collects stamps and butterflies and is learning a bit of "Svenska" along with her father.

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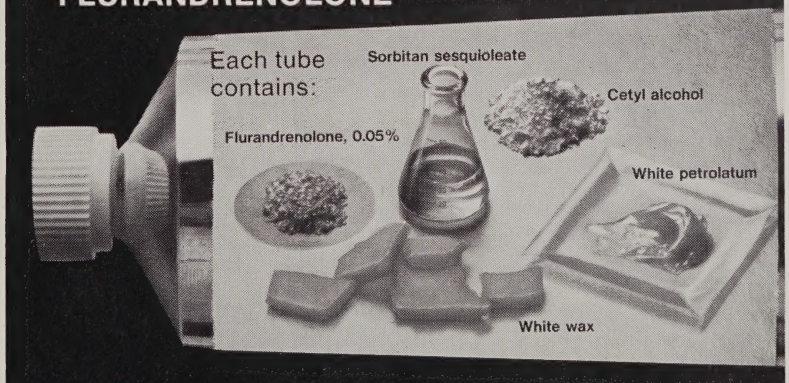

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